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HONGKONG TELEGRAPH
For and on behalf of
SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD.
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H. Marshall

TODAY'S WEATHER: Moderate East or Southeast winds; fair
apart from morning showers.
1 p.m. Observations: Barometric pressure, 1012.5 mbs. 29.91 in.
Temperature, 78.3 deg. F. Dew point, 76 deg. F. Relative humidity,
63. Wind direction, East-North-East. Wind force, 14 knots.
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at 12.15 a.m. (Thursday).

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1948.

MANY DEAD, INJURED IN DISASTROUS GODOWN FIRE

Over 50 Rescued From Blazing Inferno

WEST POINT BUILDING A MASS OF FLAMES

Dead and injured are estimated to exceed 100 in the Colony's most disastrous fire since the 1934 gasometer explosion, when, shortly after 8 o'clock this morning, the Wing On Life Assurance Company godowns at West Point went up in flames.

The first blaze was followed by an explosion and then the whole five-storey building burst into a sheet of flame which, according to eyewitnesses, extended far beyond the roof-top.

Terrifying screams were heard as far as the western area of the Peak as flames engulfed trapped residents in the building.

Some of the floors were being used as flats by employees of the company, as well as others, and it is believed that 50 bodies are in the building which was still blazing three and a half hours after the outbreak.

Eyewitnesses said that the explosion blew a gaping hole in the wall of the ground floor of the godown and from it were hurled bales of rubber, rolls of celluloid and oil drums.

According to a Company's representative, the godown was used for storing dangerous goods.

The sheet of flame which followed the explosion was of such dimensions that it leveled a building in the compound of the gasworks on the opposite side of the road.

The fire spread with incredible speed through the building and within a few minutes the whole block was ablaze.

The fire brigade, faced with a stupendous task, did fine work both in rescuing trapped people and in fighting the flames.

Two persons jumped from the roof of the building into the life-saving net.

Outstanding rescue work was performed by Divisional Officer Tiplady who safely brought a man and a woman from the roof of the burning building by means of the Davis ladder.

He had to make two trips and when he had completed the second he almost collapsed from exhaustion.

Up to 11 o'clock, about 50 injured people had been admitted to Queen Mary Hospital.

BODIES IN STREET
A number of charred bodies lay in the street around the building.

The entire fire fighting force on this side of the harbour turned out almost immediately after the first alarm and altogether nine engines and two fire floats were engaged all the morning in combatting the flames.

All available ambulances were also called into use, about 10 making relay trips from the scene of the fire to the Queen Mary Hospital.

The fire brigade fought a furious battle for three hours to prevent the blaze spreading to neighbouring godowns.

They concentrated on a narrow lane dividing the blazing godown and the Lee Hing Hong godown and about 11.30...there were signs that they were gaining some control of the flames.

The brigade brought into action a special foam chemical used in fighting oil fires and great attention was paid to the ground floor of the nearby Lee Hing Hong godown where a large quantity of peanut oil was stored.

The explosion also put out of commission all telephone lines to the gasworks.

At midday it was thought that the second godown had caught on fire but firemen were of the opinion that the smoke which appeared to be coming from the building was actually the heavy smoke from the burning godown being blown into and across the other building.

Late this morning the Queen Mary Hospital reported that all fire casualties received had been placed in wards.

They said that injured people were still arriving.

There was no report that any had died from their injuries since admission.

Fire officers said there was a danger that the Wing On godown would collapse because of the tremendous volume of water which it was necessary to pour into the building.

Directing the fire fighting operations were Acting Chief Officer C. W. Brand, assisted by Divisional Officer H. Tiplady and Station Officer C. W. Browne.

Police and St John Ambulance personnel turned out in force. Mr W. P. Thompson, Officer in Charge, Hongkong, and Mr Rolfe, ASP, being present.

STOP PIRES

Godown Blaze

Latest

At 1 p.m. it was officially disclosed that ten bodies had so far been found, and that 35 casualties had been sent to hospital.

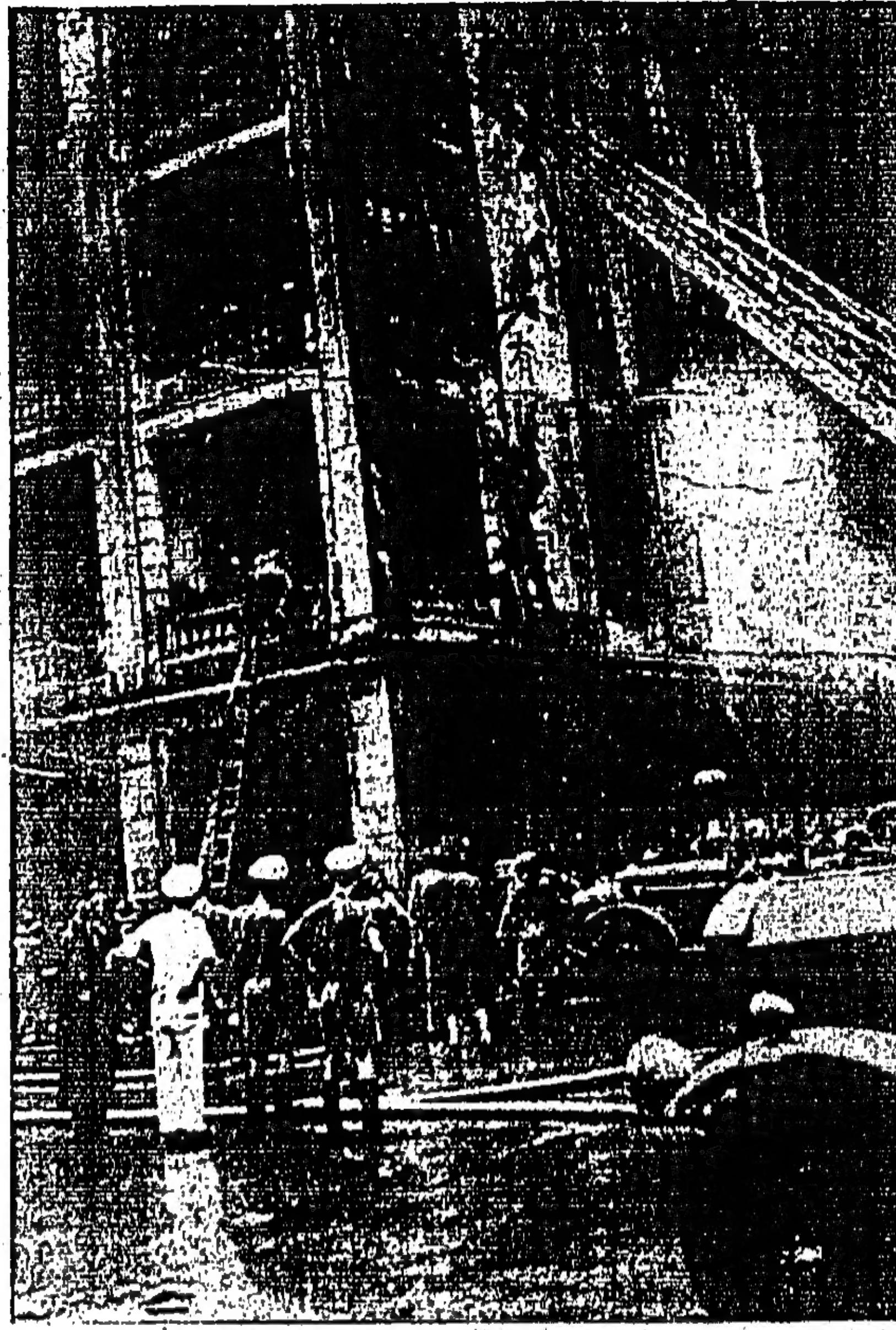
About 50 people were rescued this morning, but it is feared that death roll will be high as a number of people were trapped in the blazing building.

The smoke and flames were still leaping high and it will be some hours before the fire is under control.

The danger of the fire spreading has not yet passed.

Shortly after half past twelve the RASC fire fighting engine joined the fire brigade in fighting the flames. The RASC engine was manned by about a dozen steel-helmeted soldiers.

The production in Malaya continues to rise in spite of the terrorist activities, official figures disclosed today. The production of tin ore during August was 5,300 tons, an increase of 141 tons on the July total.—Reuter.



While hoses are played on flames enveloping the Wing On godown at West Point this morning, firemen climb ladders to rescue trapped inmates.

Irgunists Agree To Disband

Tel-Aviv, Sept. 21.—Irgun Zvai Leumi, the Jewish terrorist organisation, today accepted an Israeli Government ultimatum ordering their disbandment and the handing over for their "army" to the Israeli defence forces.

The Government also ordered Irgun members to join the Israeli Army and take the usual oath of allegiance. As their part in this agreement for the liquidation of the movement, the Israeli Government will not prosecute Irgun members for acts committed against Israeli law in the past.

An Israeli Government communiqué said that the Irgun's representative in Jerusalem accepted a 24-hour ultimatum, expiring at noon today, from the Government. Failure to do so would have brought Israeli Army action "with all the means at its disposal" against them, the communiqué said.

The communiqué revealed that the negotiations for the disbandment of Jewish terrorist organisations had been going on for some time. Until last Sunday, the Government's proposal had not been acceptable to the terrorists. After the murder of Count Folke Bernadotte, the Palestine Mediator, however, the Government decided to be strongly issued an ultimatum to the Irgun and outlawed the Stern Gang, who were alleged to be responsible for the Mediator's assassination.

THE ULTIMATUM

The ultimatum to the Irgun in Jerusalem stated:

1.—They must observe the law of the State of Israel with regard to Army recruitment and the possession of arms.

2.—They must enter the Israeli Army.

3.—They must surrender their arms.

4.—They must take the oath of allegiance.

5.—The Irgunists would be treated like every other Jew.

6.—None would suffer for breaches against the law committed previously if the disbandment order was complied with.

7.—The Israeli Army would act with all the means at its disposal if the ultimatum were rejected.

The liquidation of the Irgun organisation applies to its activities in Jerusalem, where they have hitherto maintained a dissident fighting force. In the other parts of the country, the Irgun has already accepted allegiance to the Israeli defence army.

The Stern Gang and its splinter group, the "Fathersland Front," were both outlawed by the Government under the emergency regulations published yesterday, which banned the terrorist organisations.

At a press conference held in Jerusalem today, the Irgun leaders accepted the proposals "in principle" but attacked the Government for its action.—Reuter.

(Continued on Page 5)

War Fear Pervades UN Assembly

Paris, Sept. 21.—Fear of war hung ominously over the United Nations today as the third regular General Assembly opened simultaneously with the crucial meetings of the West's big three on Berlin.

Both France's President, M. Vincent Auriol, and Argentina's Juan A. Bramuglia, as temporary president, sounded a key-note of "fear of war" in their opening addresses. They appealed to the UN to look toward peace.

Australia's Foreign Minister, Dr Herbert Evatt, followed the same theme in accepting the presidency of the General Assembly a few minutes later. He predicted the Assembly could, if it would, ease the world's troubles.

Within another few minutes, these words were given added meaning when Mr George Marshall and Mr Ernest Bevin, the British Ambassador, in Paris, with Mr Marshall were Mr Charles Bohlen, the State Department expert on Russian affairs, and Mr Jefferson Caffery, the American Ambassador in Paris.

(Continued on Page 5)



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WOMANSENSE

FISH LOAF IS NEW AND INTERESTING

FISH was quiz-surveyed at the recent New England Foods Exposition, and won the grand prize for usefulness and popularity. The "spokesmen" for this useful food were 4,376 homemakers, whose "considered opinion is that fish is a real budget-buster. Nearly half of these women observed that the nutritional value was of great importance, and reported that they are now serving fish twice-a-week. Had dock tool's top honours as "the fish most served and liked." Next in sequence came salmon, mackerel, halibut, sword fish and cod.

Full Advantage

All this is encouraging. But even today we are not taking anywhere near full advantage of the fabulous quantities of fish available in the U.S. They cost not a cent to raise. They don't eat grain. They are available for the catching. There's a wide selection in most coastal markets; and in inland cities, towns and villages, there is an adequate selection of local fresh fish as well as canned, smoked and salted fish. By taking advantage of all forms in which it is available, the fish repertoire of any household can include from twenty-five to fifty varieties.

Eggs, meat, poultry and cheese, our chief sources of protein foods, are costing a lot. If we learn to cook available fish in new ways to avoid monotony, and serve it twice a week, we can expect our budget for protein food to take a tall spin.

Dinner

Dutch Cucumber Salad
Toasted Rolls
Fish Loaf Parsled Cream Sauce
Riced Potato
Stewed Tomatoes and Corn
Water Melon-Blackberry Cup
Hot or Iced Coffee or Tea
Milk (Children)
All Measurements Are Level
Recipes Serve Four

Dutch Cucumber Salad

Take and thin-slice 2 crisp young cucumbers. Then to 1/2 c. sour cream, add 1 tbsps. grated mild onion, 1 tbsps. vinegar or lemon

juice, 1/2 tsp. salt and 1/4 tsp. pepper. Pour over the cucumbers. Sprinkle with parsley and serve with lettuce, water cress or any salad green.

Fish Loaf

Use any kind of fine-flaked, cold-cooked, light-colored fish, such as codfish, haddock, whiting, white fish or halibut, or use canned fish or salmon if desired. First put 1/2 c. dry bread or cracker crumbs into a 4t-sized bowl. Pour over 2/3 c. scalded milk. Let stand 15 min. Then add 2 1/2 c. fine-flaked

tomatoes or 1 c. solid-canned tomatoes; 1 tsp. salt; 2 fine-minced sweet green peppers; 1 c. chopped onion; 1/4 c. thin-sliced carrot, and 1 c. peeled, sliced cucumber, kohlrabi or summer squash. Add 6 c. boiling water; cover and boil until all vegetables are crisp-tender, about 30 min. Serve plain, or season with 1 tsp. chili or curry powder dissolved in 1 tbsps. cold water. Ladle into soup plates containing little mounds of boiled rice. These are prepared by pressing cooked rice into demitasse cups or small custard cups and unmoulding into the plates.

Jellied Beef Loaf

In a deep kettle place 3 lbs. beef, "sticking piece," or any cut of beef suitable for boiling. Cover with boiling water; add 2 tbsps. salt and 1 tbsp. vinegar. Cover and simmer about 4 hrs. or until the meat is tender. (Or pressure-cook at 15 lbs. pressure for 40 min.). When done, drain and reserve the beef stock. Remove any fat and gristle. Chop the meat fine in a chopping bowl. Add 2 c. of the beef stock, together with 1 1/2 tsp. onion juice, and salt and pepper to taste. Then stir in 3 tbsps. (3 envelopes) unflavoured, granulated gelatin previously softened 5 min. in 1/4 c. cold water, and dissolved in 1/4 c. boiling soup stock. Rub a 6 c. mould with salad oil. Half fill with the meat mixture. Cover with a layer of sliced hard-cooked egg, then top with the meat. Chill about 4 hrs., or overnight, in the refrigerator. Unmould on a large platter. Garnish the top with overlapping half slices of tomato and dill pickle. Arrange country potato salad at each end of the platter; garnish with parsley.

Trick Of The Chef

To serve ginger cake Louisiana style, spread a thin loaf of warm gingerbread with cream cheese, cut in squares and pour over a nice lemon or lime pudding sauce.

BOYS AND GIRLS MAGAZINE

The Story of Three Friends

—And How Two of Them Turned Into Something Else—

By MAX TRELL

"ONCE upon a time," Ting-a-Ling was saying to Knarf and Handi, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, "there were three friends."

Knarf and Handi instantly said:

"Who were they, Ting-a-Ling?"

Ting-a-Ling smiled. "I was just coming to that. These three friends were as unlike as three friends could possibly be. Yet they liked each other very much. One was a mouse. The other was a tadpole. And the third was a caterpillar."

"My, they were different, weren't they!" Handi exclaimed.

"Indeed they were. The mouse lived in the cellar of an old farm-house. The caterpillar lived in a tree (and sometimes it was one tree, and sometimes it was another). And the tadpole lived in a ditch at the side of the road. Yet these three friends met each other every day."

"Where did they meet?" Knarf asked, wondering how three such different friends could ever get together.

Edge of Ditch

"Well, they all had to meet at the edge of the ditch. It was all on account of the tadpole. The mouse could go almost anywhere, for he was very brave and nimble. The caterpillar, though he wasn't a bit brave and anything but nimble, could manage to go almost anywhere, too, for he was slow and patient and a great climber. But the poor tadpole had to stay in the water of his little muddy ditch, if he stuck his head outside he would soon begin to gasp and choke, so he knew he couldn't leave the water."

"Nevertheless," Ting-a-Ling went on, "the three friends continued to meet and spend long pleasant afternoons together. But one day a

Mr. Dean then went to some length explaining how the soil of the open beds should be prepared in order to provide natural drainage and to allow plant roots to reach more comfortably below the usual six inches of earth, which is often the only part well-filled and manured.

After the lecture Mr. Dean stated that he would be glad to give regular and practical outdoor demonstrations if a sufficient number of ladies were interested.

Have a Well-Rounded Figure



By HELEN FOLLETT

THE girl who is flat busted and whose collar bones loom up like little shelves will find help in an exercise that reminds one of a rooster flapping its wings, getting ready to crow. These movements also strengthen the muscles of the back and upper arms. They're fun to do.

Place the right hand on the right shoulder, the left hand on the left shoulder, touching only with the finger tips. Extend the elbows out at the sides on a line with the shoulders. Swing them forward until they touch. Out at the sides again, then far back, lifting the chest high, at the same time taking a deep breath. Bring the elbows down to the side of the body, back to first position and repeat.

This is not as complicated as it sounds. It is easy to do. Use plenty of muscle pull. Deep breathing is an important part of chest and bust development. Good posture is even more important.

If the body is undernourished, that will be a hindrance. The pocket-size girl should add more tissue-building foods to the diet. More butter, cream, white bread and sweet desserts. She must also have meat, soups or fish with her dinner, and two vegetables. For breakfast: fruit, a hot cereal, two slices of bacon or an egg, and a beverage.

Local treatment for bust development consists of light massage with cocoanut butter every night, followed by arm swinging exercises. In the morning do five minutes of breathing exercises before an open window.

Buffalo In The Old- Time West

(Continued from yesterday)

THE white man sent trading caravans out on the face of the plain but his puny columns only melted into the great expanse hardly leaving a trace. The first palefaces killed buffalo only for food and made little impression. In 1870, Colonel Dodge reported that he rode for 25 miles along the Arkansas River through the prairie as far as he could see.

But in the same year—1870—an event was taking place which was to be the beginning of the end for the buffalo. The railroad was pushed across the plains, dividing the bison into a southern and northern herd. To supply the construction crews thousands of the animals were killed.

In the early '70s, the real pay-off came. Buffalo robes became fashionable in the East and in Europe and to secure these pelts it seemed that everyone who could hold a gun was in the West to get a buffalo.

An old hunter, who was in the big hole," says the night skies reflected thousands of hunters' campfires around old Fort Dodge, Kan.

(To be Continued Tomorrow)

RARE MUSIC BOXES

Rare old music boxes come in unusual shapes, including a musical pistol, and a butterfly box. Another antique holds a quaint couple on its lid. When the tune is played, the girl nods her head "yes" and the boy nods "no." Certain people today have built up businesses buying, selling and repairing music boxes in America.

Rupert & Ting-Ling—45



At first Rupert is mystified at Mr. Beaver's warning. Then he rounds a bush and, with a start, he notices a small, scaly thing, breathing smoke at him from the top of a boulder. "Why, it's Pong-Ping's pet dragon!" he cries. "What brings it here?" But, of course, it must be this bamboo pipe. I forgot that it calls dragons as well as fish. He should tell his father and for Bill and Betsy, who says that there is no danger, but they are very slow to come back."

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RED RYDER



Court Decision

By Fred Harman

WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



ON GUARD—Watchman W. E. Bird and his trusty shotgun are practically inseparable since he was assigned to guard a mammoth pile of wheat in Ponca City, Oklahoma. The bumper crop could not be fitted in already over-loaded grain elevators so 15,000 bushels of wheat were dumped in an empty hangar with Bird to guard it.



MACHINE-AGE BLUES "Puddles" makes a frantic dash at the bone as her master, a California appliance dealer, gets set to demonstrate a new-type, electrical garbage disposal unit. "Puddles" seems to think the old-fashioned way is good enough.



SAVING WHAT THEY CAN—Household belongings, including two bottles of choice liquor, are salvaged from the blazing thatched home of British millionaire S. Gestetner. The home was completely destroyed. The salvaged furniture was stored in Gestetner's air-raid shelter, built in 1937, the first in Britain.



DOUBLE FOURSOMES—Some good quads get together in New York when the four Cirminellos came from Arlington, Virginia, to meet the Zarief quadruplets of Brooklyn. Playing in the Zariefs' sun parlour here are (left to right) Eileen, Maureen, Kathleen and Michael Cirminello, four years old, and Ellen, Benjamin, Isadore and Elaine Zarief, aged three.



WINTER'S HERE—Brrr-rrr was Shelley Winters' comment as she arrived in New York after flying in from Hollywood. The cold breeze really caught the new screen personality unawares. She journeyed for the premiere of her new picture.



CRASH-LANDING BUT ALL SAFE—Thirty-five passengers and three crew members escaped serious injury when this plane crash-landed at Chicago's Glenview airport. Pilot Ed Cycon brought the ship in with a jammed nose-wheel after circling the field until the plane ran out of gas so as to avoid an explosion when the ship nosed into the field.

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SIDE-SHOW SCENE—This small boy, with his pet rooster, steals a peak under the canopy at a top society wedding in Binghamton, New York. Here, the happy pair takes a look at another happy pair, Mr. and Mrs. William J. Zinck.

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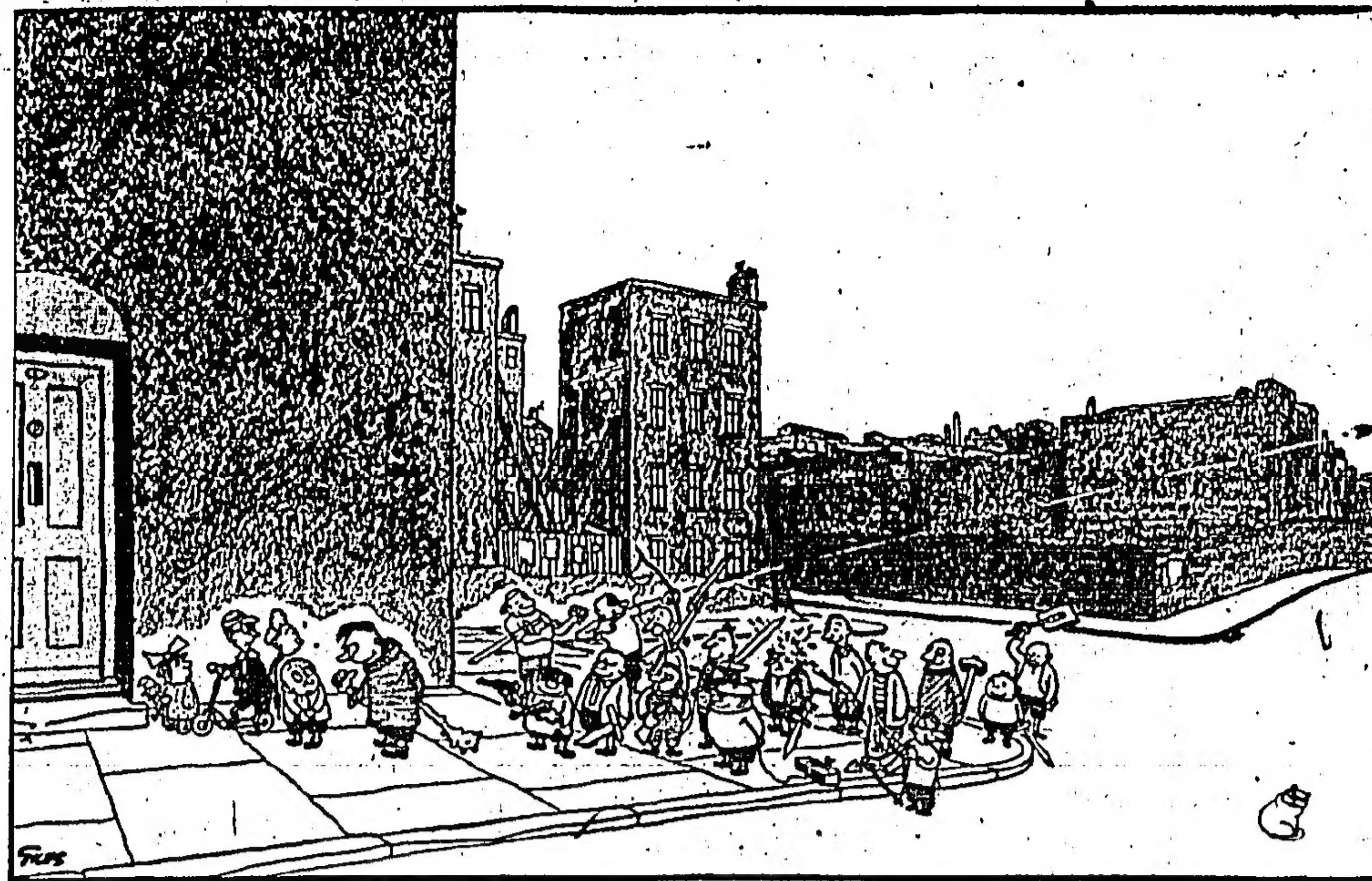
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SPECIAL FOR TO-MORROW: "O. S. S." A PARAMOUNT FILM



"But we don't wish to play Peace Conference today, thank you."

Imitators Of Columbus

By WILLIAM HORSEY

A STRANGE exodus from Europe to Latin-American is in progress.

In small boats, hundreds of men, women and children are fleeing for refuge in a new land, as the Pilgrims, Puritans and other groups did when the North American continent was first opened up.

Some brave the dangers of the Atlantic to escape the aftermath of World War II. Others hope to avoid being caught in World War III, which they fear is in the making.

In the happier days of the '30s, crossing the Atlantic from Europe to South America in a small boat was left to magazine writers seeking material or to foolhardy adventurers. Now a stream of tiny craft carries frightened Europeans to their imagined land of promise in the Latin-American continent.

Nine Norwegians who escaped from jail in their fatherland, where they were serving terms for quisling activities, left Bergen in a 78-foot steel barge, the Solbris, more than a year ago. They fought for their liberty from a Brazilian prison when the Oslo government started extradition proceedings and carried them to the supreme court. The proceedings were quashed. The hardy Scandinavians have just reached Buenos Aires.

SIX-MONTH VOYAGE

Previously, another group of northern Europeans, of mixed nationalities arrived in Buenos Aires in the yacht Falken, 75 feet long, after many months of breasting the Roaring Forties and the Trade Winds. They almost lost their lives in the English Channel in bad weather. From Stockholm to Buenos Aires, the voyage lasted more than six months.

Belgians, Dutch and others who said they feared World War III was both imminent and inevitable, arrived in Buenos Aires in the Eulenspiegel, a converted submarine chaser. They seemed to be mostly fairly well-to-do if not wealthy people. Most of them went ashore for good; a few elected to return.

The Venezuelan port of La Guaira reported that 30 Republican Spaniards—including a woman and two small children—arrived there in a tiny schooner after 26 days crossing. For that matter, most of the craft carry women and small children. This is only one of many boats putting into Venezuelan ports after a trans-Atlantic crossing.

SEIZED IN URUGUAY

Fourteen Poles were seized in a closed motor van by the Uruguayan police as they neared the Argentine frontier, but they steadfastly refused to identify the boat that brought them.

Similarly a shivering group of Jews were found in a long canoe in the labyrinthine waterway system of the Tigre Delta, north of Buenos Aires, by the maritime police force. They were also "brought in" by mysterious agents.

Norwegian officials in South America believe there is a regular organization for getting former collaborators out of Europe and into South America. The majority of the 1948 Imitators of Columbus seem to be northern or eastern Europeans fleeing from the countries along and behind the Iron Curtain.

So far, most South American countries have granted them the generous hospitality for which they are famous. Many of these huge lands are population-hungry.—United Press.

Sitting on the Fence

by NATHANIEL GUBBINS

SCORE: Lottie, not out, 22. Gubbins, 2 overs, 1 maiden, no wickets for 22.

Lunch Interval

THIRD over, with Lottie well set for a century and Gubbins determined to get her out before lunch.

And here comes the first ball, and a cunning one it is, too. It bounces slowly along the floor and Lottie can't resist it.

She comes out of her crease to play it, and as soon as she's touched it Gubbins picks it up and tries to knock down her wicket.

But he misses, yes, he misses. This is terribly exciting. He chases after the ball. So does Lottie.

Gubbins gets it again. He throws it, misses the wicket once more. Lottie's after it again. She dribbles it across the floor like a footballer and under the settee, where Gubbins can't get it.

But he's fighting mad now. He's straining to shift the settee.

It shifts one end, and Lottie takes the ball under the other end.

This is not much like cricket, but it's terribly exciting to watch. And what's happened now? Lottie's heard something.

She's heard the clatter of knives and forks on china, and she's off like a flash and down the stairs, leaving Gubbins looking rather silly.

He could crawl under the settee, retrieve the ball, and stump Lottie while she was at lunch, but that wouldn't be much like cricket either, so for the moment we will leave the game with the score at 22 for no wicket.

BLOW AT PAY-FOR-YOUR-SEAT MEN

By 'CROSS-BENCHER'

subscribing lavishly to constituency funds in pre-election years is foreseen.

The report stipulates that no candidate shall be allowed to subscribe more than £50 in any one year to his constituency funds.

There is a safeguard for the annual subscription at all.

For constituency selection committees will be forbidden to mention the matter of annual subscriptions before a candidate has been selected.

That means the emphasis will be laid on ability instead of wealth.

The report is not only concerned with protecting the pockets of candidates.

It wants an increased income of £200,000 a year for Tory Central Office.

And it proposes that the extra money should be obtained by an average subscription of 3d. a year from every person who voted Tory in 1945.

The levy, it is suggested, should be graded according to the type of constituency.

In a safe Tory seat the recommended subscription is 6d. from each Tory voter. In seats held by a slim Tory majority the subscription asked will be 3d. a year.

And in seats held by Socialists the subscription demanded from Tories will vary from 2d. a year to 3d. a year, depending on the size of the Socialist majority.

The bigger the Socialist majority the smaller will be the Tory subscription demanded.

The proposals will be the subject of critical analysis when the Tories meet in conference at Llandudno next month.

NANCY It Works—In Reverse

By Ernie Bushmiller



Don't let this happen to you!
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THE COLONY'S SWIMMERS LOOK TO THE NEXT EMPIRE GAMES

By "RECODER"

The Colony Swimming Championships are on again and there is a buzz of excitement at the Victoria Recreation Club as has seldom echoed from the rafters of this reverend haunt of the Colony's aquatic hopes.

Those in the know—and I tracked them all down, one by one—say that there isn't much to be looked forward to in the men's events but that the ladies will probably write in a whole new chapter for the local aqua-rectangle book by midnight on Saturday.

But the buzz of excitement has little to do with what is expected of the ladies. I was taken aside by one grizzled veteran of local swimming and then another and informed of the fact that Hongkong's swimmers were in fever heat over the fact that the Colony is almost certain to be represented in the swimming events at the next Empire Games in New Zealand.

It was pointed out to me that though Britain may have swimmers like Jack Hale and Roy Romaine and Australian swimmers like Bruce Marshall, the general Empire standard is not so high that Hongkong cannot creep into some finals.

It was specifically pointed out to me that, despite the fact teen-aged Soddyless Cuthie Gibson can swim faster than practically any local 440-yard free-style, she is quite an exception and would probably place in a men's final in England just as easily as she would in Hongkong.

Facts and figures were hurled at me from all angles and every now and then someone diving into the pool would doze me with a splash of water. So much so, that in due course I had to agree to listen to reason.

It is, I see, the light, quite true that only exceptional femininity aquastars, in the top class by world standard only, can outswim our local Weissmullers.

It is true, quite true, that Ann Curtis would have fared quite well had she competed in the Men's, let us call it an "Open" 400 yards free style at London, and, though of course she would not have made the final, it is a doubtful point that she would have come last in any of the preliminary round heats.

AS TRUE, IT FOLLOWS

And if that is true of Ann Curtis, who could beat our local Chun-Chun-nam only at her best, it follows that Chun would probably also have succeeded in evading the booby prize at Wembley Pool.

The only Chinese entry in the Games' swimming, a lad from Singapore, came in ahead of a Bermudian.

I was told yesterday at the VRC that Hongkong swimmers even in their poorer events would have placed in very nearly every final in the British Olympic trials on a study of competition times.

The strange fact is that Britain did best of all Empire countries in the Games swimming, it must follow that Hongkong swimmers would not be disgraced in an Empire meet.

The veteran of all local swimming veterans, Wilfred Lawrence, told me yesterday that what Hongkong has always lacked is a swimming coach.

Wilfred expressed the opinion that had he ever been given the benefit of proper coaching he might have touched 52 seconds rather than 55 seconds for the 100 yards free style in his prime. Weissmuller became Tarzan with a 51-second effort.

Though that would be a wide statement coming from anyone else, I cannot ignore the fact that Wilfred Lawrence is one of the greatest and most sporting of all our sportsmen and would hardly commit himself to saying something he did not believe.

I am inclined to think that he is right and that three seconds is about the margin between a properly coached and an uncoached swimming star over 100 yards.

Beside Lawrence, Hongkong has produced other swimmers who touched 55 and 54 seconds for the 100 yards free style. They all managed these times without benefit of a winter-long of special exercises or under-water photography to detect flaws in style.

So, we can, after all, point with pride to achievement that borders world class. It is when we look at some of our 50-yard stars that we reach closer realization of the fact that we are not too bad.

A 24.4 second performance for 50 yards would place in the biggest American College meets, involving such all-star teams as Ohio State, Michigan, Harvard and Yale, and it has been done here.

The 50 yards, being a shorter distance, asks less of technique and more of sheer speed, and it is not unreasonable to argue, the margin between local and world marks as corresponding distances increase is accounted for more by lack of technique than speed potential.

IN A HUDDLE

Our local aquatic policy-makers are in a huddle at the moment with regard to remedying this "lack of a

Yesterday At The VRC

The big disappointment at the VRC yesterday was the paring down of the Ladies' 220 Yards free style field to the point where heats were not necessary and the five remaining entries qualified automatically for the final which will be an all-star affair.

Leung Ol-mui of the Hongkong University is regarded as the probable winner in this event. She will face stiff competition from the Anderson sisters and Mrs Lykke Rose.

The Anderson sisters did not compete in the 220 yards last year and it will be interesting to see how they fare. Mrs Rose is also highly regarded and told me yesterday that she will use the crawl as stroke. "If it was 440 yards," she said, "I would use back stroke."

The only championship heats decided yesterday were on the 150 yards back stroke. A. V. Lopes of VRC last year's 220 Backstroke champion, returned the best time, a respectable 1 min. 54.2 seconds, ahead of such local back-stroke stars as Wilfred Lawrence and A. K. Rumjahn.

With a view to Empire Games participation, the Colony Championship distances in the back and breast-stroke have been changed from the former 220 yards to the standard 100 and 150 for the back-stroke and 100 and 200 yards for the breast-stroke.

The Junior 220 yards free style heats produced a very comparative finish between S. B. Mitford and A. McEwen who led their heats in 2:45 2/5 and 2:45 1/5. Mitford won by a full second from McEwen in 2:43 3/5 in a 30 yards free style heat.

With G. Randall and C. Gutierrez returning 2:43 5/6 and G. P. Blenkinsop 2:45 4/5, the final should be a very close affair in the 50 yards.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

COLONY CHAMPIONSHIP

150 Yards Back-Stroke

Heat 1—1. W. Lawrence (VRC) 1:50 1/5; 2. A. K. Rumjahn (VRC) 2:00 2/5; 3. N. Reynolds (VRC) 2:14 3/5.

Heat 2—1. A. V. Lopes (VRC)

1:54 1/5; 2. L. E. Gutierrez (VRC) 2:00 2/5; 3. C. A. Gutierrez (VRC) 2:09 3/5.

Ladies' 220 Yards Free Style

Miss Leung Ol-mui (University), Mrs Lykke Rose (VRC), Miss Heather Anderson (VRC), Miss Shauna Anderson (VRC) and Miss Joan Eager (VRC) qualified for the final after the two remaining entries had scratched.

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

50 Yards Free Style

Heat 1—1. G. Randall 2:43 5/6; 2.

G. P. Blenkinsop 2:45 4/5; 3. R. E. Ho 2:49 2/5.

Heat 2—1. C. Gutierrez 2:43 3/5; 2. E. Ho 2:49 3/6; 3. K. Sargent 2:56.

Friendly Moment Between Rivals



Alistair McEwen, one of the two hot favourites for the Junior 220 Yards Free Style at the VRC takes a turn in the event while his rival, S. B. Mitford, joint hot favourite for the title, calls out the lengths to him. Both won their heats with a one-fifth second time difference between the two.—"Telegraph" Staff Photographer.

NON-TITLE FIGHT

Woodcock Knocks Out Lee Oma In 4th Round

London, Sept. 21.—Bruce Woodcock, the British heavyweight champion, making his first ring appearance for more than 17 months, knocked out Lee Oma, the American heavyweight, in the fourth round of their eight-round non-title contest at the Harringay Arena here tonight.

Woodcock, aged 27, battered Oma, aged 32, to a standstill in a fight which was accompanied by catcalls, boos, hand-clapping and satirical songs from the capacity crowd of 10,000.

Woodcock, who had not fought since he had his jaw broken by the American, Joe Baks, in the same ring 17 months ago had no difficulty in punching Oma with his left at any time during the three and a half rounds the contest lasted.

From the outset, Oma made a sorry showing and at no time did his look as if he was set to deliver a telling blow. Not once did the American attempt any effective guard and so monotonous did Woodcock's left hand punching become that the crowd kept time with it by clapping its hands.

I understood yesterday evening that there is considerable support for a scheme of this nature and that, though the Japanese are not very popular people in Hongkong, we feel less antipathy against their swimmers who have performed in our local pools in the past with a sufficient modicum of good feeling even in the worst of times.

BASEBALL

BOSTON BRAVES TIGHTEN GRIP ON THE PENNANT

New York, Sept. 21.—Billy Southworth's Boston Braves all but clinched the National League pennant today by defeating Cardinals twice, 11-3 and 4-0, to lengthen their lead to seven and a half games.

Rolling relentlessly toward their first flag since 1914, Braves won the opener behind Johnny Sain who scored his 22nd victory of the year, and the nightcap behind rookie Vern Bickford who scattered four hits.

Since second place Brooklyn Dodgers lost two games to Pittsburgh Pirates, Braves can mathematically clinch the pennant on Wednesday by winning if Brooklyn loses. Otherwise any combination of two Boston victories or two Brooklyn defeats gives Braves the pennant. Both Boston and Brooklyn have nine games left to play.

In the opener, Sain's two timely safeties and Early Torre's three hits helped Boston conquer George Munger.

Bickford hurled masterfully in the nightcap while Braves climbed on Howie Pollet for three runs in the first inning.

Pittsburgh won the playoff of the August 25 protest game, 12-11, and then beat Brooklyn in a regulation contest 6-3. Replayng part of the ninth-inning as directed by League President Ford Frick, Bickford loaded the bases and Stan Rojek doubled to clear them. It gave Pittsburgh a total of six runs in the ninth and the deciding inning.

Heat 3—Lau Tai-ping (Lai Tsun), Gordon Randall (VRC), Jack Gomes (VRC), and Choi Lee-hang (Chinese YMCA) and Cheong Wan-lam (Eastern).

Heat 4—Gerry Roza-Pereira (VRC), Wilfred Lawrence (VRC), George Saunders (VRC), Chau Chu-cheng (Chinese YMCA) and Wong Chi-hung (Eastern).

Heat 5—Lau Tai-ping (Lai Tsun), Gordon Randall (VRC), C. A. Gutierrez (VRC), Jack Gomes (VRC) and Lau Tai-ping (Lai Tsun).

Heat 6—Cheong Wan-lam (Eastern), Gordon Randall (VRC), G. Blenkinsop (VRC), G. Roza-Pereira (VRC) and George Saunders (VRC).

Heat 7—Shauna Anderson (VRC), Heather Anderson (VRC) and Joan Eager (VRC).

Heat 8—Leung Ol-mui (University), Celeste Gutierrez (VRC) and Cynthia Eager (VRC).

Men's 150 Yards Medley

Heat 1—Wilfred Lawrence (VRC), A. V. Lopes (VRC), C. A. Gutierrez (VRC), Jack Gomes (VRC) and Lau Tai-ping (Lai Tsun).

Heat 2—Cheong Wan-lam (Eastern), Gordon Randall (VRC), G. Blenkinsop (VRC), G. Roza-Pereira (VRC) and George Saunders (VRC).

Heat 3—Lau Tai-ping (Lai Tsun), Gordon Randall (VRC), S. E. Carvalho (VRC), William Chan (University) and Wong Tai-ping (Lai Tsun).

Heat 4—Young Wing-chak (Chinese YMCA), G. Roza-Pereira (VRC), G. Blenkinsop (VRC), Leung Hin-kun (Lai Tsun), and Cheong Chung-yui (Chinese YMCA).

Men's 200 Yards Breast Stroke

Heat 1—Wong Chuk-wing (Lai Tsun), Johnnie Yvanovich (VRC), William Chan (University) and Wong Tai-ping (Lai Tsun).

Heat 2—Young Wing-chak (Chinese YMCA), G. Roza-Pereira (VRC), G. Blenkinsop (VRC), Leung Hin-kun (Lai Tsun), and Cheong Chung-yui (Chinese YMCA).

Men's 100 Yards Free Style

Heat 1—Shauna Anderson (VRC), Heather Anderson (VRC) and Joan Eager (VRC).

Heat 2—Leung Ol-mui (University), Celeste Gutierrez (VRC) and Cynthia Eager (VRC).

Men's 50 Yards Back Stroke

Heat 1—Wong Chuk-wing (Lai Tsun), Johnnie Yvanovich (VRC), William Chan (University) and Wong Tai-ping (Lai Tsun).

Heat 2—Young Wing-chak (Chinese YMCA), G. Roza-Pereira (VRC), G. Blenkinsop (VRC), Leung Hin-kun (Lai Tsun), and Cheong Chung-yui (Chinese YMCA).

Men's 50 Yards Free Style

Heat 1—G. Randall 2:43 5/6; 2.

G. P. Blenkinsop 2:45 4/5; 3. R. E. Ho 2:49 2/5.

Heat 2—1. C. Gutierrez 2:43 3/5; 2. E. Ho 2:49 3/6; 3. K. Sargent 2:56.

A FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION HEADACHE

The Problem Of Ground Dimensions

By ARCHIE QUICK

One of the problems which the Football Association will shortly have to tackle is that of dimensions of the field of play.

The importance of the problem was simply demonstrated when Queen's Park Rangers made their home debut in the Second Division against Leicester City.

Queen's Park Rangers v. Leicester at Shepherd's Bush is quite a different match from Leicester v. Queen's Park Rangers at Elborth Street, even accounting for the home crowd support.

The fact of the matter is that while the Leicester Club, like so many others, have a full-sized pitch which has recently been relaid to a billiard-like smoothness at a cost of £10,000, the Rangers' pitch is not only as bumpy as a golf course but is so cramped that a visiting team arriving for the first time in the Rangers' new sphere will find it a handicap of at least one goal.

Maximum measurements as required by the law of the game are 130 yards by 100 and the minimum 100 yards by 50. I would say that the Shepherd's Bush enclosure is about 110 yards by 70.

Maximum measurements as required by the law of the game are 130 yards by 100 and the minimum 100 yards by 50. I would say that the Shepherd's Bush enclosure is about 110 yards by 70.

So when Leicester started playing their characteristic close-passing game they found the Rangers had ample time to get back and pack their defence.

Again, passes to the wing went instead into the crowd and the inside-forwards were constantly bumping into the wings.

The Rangers, of course, know all about the ground's idiosyncrasies and adopt the long-passing game. Not many sides will take points from the Rangers at home but there is something lacking about their attack which will have to be remedied.

GREAT TEAM SPIRIT

One thing this club does possess, however, is a great team spirit engendered partly, perhaps, by the fact that all the first team players are on maximum wages.

Regarding ground sizes, Mr Stanley Rous, the Football Association Secretary, told me it is a difficult matter to approach because of the lack of facilities to expand which handicaps so many clubs.

Another matter that is causing concern is the cramped accommodation on the Rangers' terraces. The Metropolitan Police are well aware of the danger and are watching it carefully.

They were there in force for the opening match and will not hesitate to close the gates if there are signs of overcrowding.

One end of the ground is in process of extension. The truth is that the Rangers are unable to obtain Government permission to make improvements and have reached the Second Division before their ground is ready for it.

Japanese Want The Davis Cup

St Andrews, Scotland, Sept. 21.—The Rules Committee of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews received so many suggestions from all parts of the world on the proposed revision of the rules of golf that they have asked for further time to consider the proposals.

Mr Bernard Dar

THE RURAL RECONSTRUCTION OF CHINA

ECA Nominees For Nanking

Washington, Sept. 21.—The ECA announced today that the two United States members of the China Rural Reconstruction will leave for China next week by air. They are Dr Raymond T. Moyer and Mr John E. Baker who were appointed by President Truman last week.

Dr Moyer told the press that the Chinese members of the five-man commission have already been appointed. He said they are Messrs Chiang Mon-lin, James Yen and T. H. Shen.

Dr Moyer said that when he and Mr Baker reach China, the full Commission will meet at Nanking to decide on the broad outlines of the rural reconstruction programme. He said the programme would include all aspects necessary to bring about the stabilisation of conditions and checkers of Communist influence in China.

Dr Moyer pointed out that the Communists stronghold has been in rural areas. He said the Commission will attempt to alleviate unsatisfactory conditions as a means of making the people less susceptible to Communist propaganda. He said while agricultural reform will be emphasised, economic conditions in general will be studied, including marketing, adjustment of landlord-tenant relationships, enforcing of land laws, public health and education.

Some Tips For Married Bliss

Belfast, Sept. 21.—Want a life of married bliss? Tell your wife you love her—at least once a day and three times on Sundays and holidays.

That is the advice of the Rev. J. M. McIlrath, 89, of the Irish Presbyterian Church, who has written an essay on "Love, Courtship and Marriage" to celebrate his diamond wedding.

His best tip for wives: take it easy on cosmetics—"Face powder may attract, but it takes baking powder to retain."—Association Press.

Dr Moyer said the rural people in China are suffering from bad local government and administration. He said he hoped that the Commission could improve these conditions and also bring reforms in tax collection and methods of army recruitment.

The Commission was established following an exchange of letters between the Chinese and United States Governments last August 4. The Chinese Government has agreed to extend its full co-operation to the Commission's work. Dr Moyer said his group will work closely with the ECA China Chief, Mr Roger Lapham.

He said part of the responsibility will be to recommend curtailment of aid by the ECA if it appears to the Commission that results are not being obtained. Under the law the Commission is authorised to spend \$27,500,000 on its work or ten percent of all of the \$275,000,000 which is China's portion of first year recovery funds.

ONLY A START

Dr Moyer said that part of this money will be used to establish a joint Chinese-American secretariat and technical staff in Nanking. Both Dr Moyer and Mr Baker emphasised that since the first year's China aid programme expires next April 1 only a start can be made in solving many problems facing it.

Mr Baker said the present education problem would be attacked from two sides: 1. attempt to teach the people to appreciate the necessity for recommended reforms and 2. a general education programme in citizenship and, if possible, an attempt to curtail rural illiteracy.

Both men expressed the hope that after the Commission establishes the groundwork, work will be continued for the next three or four years regardless of ECA appropriations. He said that continued work could be financed in the future in part by counterpart funds now being set aside by the Chinese Government in its own currency in return for ECA aid.

It will be the duty of the Commission to recommend specific ECA expenditures for rural reconstruction projects under the programme. However, Dr Moyer emphasised that there is no intent by the Commission to carry out Chinese internal laws and they will merely make recommendations to the Chinese Government.

NEED FOR REFORMS

He said there are increasing indications that high Chinese Government officials recognise the need for such reforms. He said the Commission will probably choose three or four provinces where the co-operation of the provincial governors can be counted on to start the programme.

Mr Baker denied that there was any chance of ever creating a Chinese Government with Communist co-operation. He said he

Woman Warrior Leads Her Rebels On White Horse

Rangoon, Sept. 21.—A government communiqué said today loyal troops in Central Burma had defeated a powerful rebel force commanded by a woman warrior named Ma Khin Nyunt.

The woman rode a white horse and led her fighters into an attack on Burmese soldiers encamped in a Toungoo district village on Sunday.

After the battle had raged for three hours, reinforcements reached the loyal troops.

The village was burned and the Communists fled.

Other rebel forces launched twin attacks on the road juncture of Ilawad, 30 miles above Rangoon on the highway to Prome, official said.

Burmese troops in that area had to be reinforced before the rebels retreated.

The government said loyal troops now control the coastal city of Moulmein. The announcement said "urgent Karen tribesmen in the area were surrendering."—Associated Press.

EMPLOYER OR TRADE UNIONIST?

Auckland, New Zealand, Sept. 21.—Unless Sir Laurence Olivier is described as an "employer" he will be a trade unionist while in New Zealand or else be unable to accept any professional engagement, it was learned on Tuesday.

This is the result of an Actors' Equity Agreement reached between employers and employees in New Zealand under which all overseas artists coming to New Zealand will be required to obtain transfers from their own actors' union to the Dominion union.

While in New Zealand, actors will come temporarily under the New Zealand.

The agreement provides that compulsory unionism is to apply to all professional actors and entertainers appearing in New Zealand, including members of overseas touring companies such as the Old Vic group.

Russia Can't Go To War For 10 Years

Canberra, Sept. 21.—Field Marshal Lord Montgomery estimated in 1947 that Russia would be unable to go to war inside 10 years. Japan inside 25 years and Germany inside 50 years, the Australian Army Minister Mr Cyril Chambers told the House of Representatives on Tuesday.

Mr Chambers, who was speaking during the Australian's budget debate, said that Viscount Montgomery, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, was a "great personal friend of Prime Minister Stalin, had often talked with him and probably knew more of the war potentialities of the world than any other man outside Russia."

Saying that "If we talked more of peace and less of war, our peace prospects would be better," Mr Chambers declared that he believed the next war would be a "push button" war.

"Another conflagration will be the end of civilisation and perhaps the Almighty has given us one more chance to decide on war or peace," he added.—Associated Press.

The Department hopes to survey 30,000 plants.—Reuter.

Industrial Mobilisation Plan

Washington, Sept. 21.—The United States Department of Defense announced today that the joint chiefs of staff have handed to the Munitions Board a comprehensive plan for industrial mobilisation in the United States in the event of extreme emergency.

A spokesman for the Defence Department said the Board has already accumulated \$700,000,000 worth of over 50 different kinds of raw materials.

So far, 12,000 plants have been surveyed and scheduled as the most efficient producers of specific military items that would be required in bulk in an emergency.

The Department hopes to survey 30,000 plants.—Reuter.

H.C.L. QUESTIONNAIRE

Locality	Street
House or Flat	No. of Rooms
Number in Family	
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Servants	
Light and Fuel	
Schooling	
Clothing	
Transportation	
Insurance	
Entertainment	
Any Other Items:	
TOTAL \$	
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JULIANA PRAISES U.S. AID

The Hague, Sept. 21.—Queen Juliana drove to Parliament today in a golden coach and in her first speech from the throne praised American aid for helping to restore Dutch prosperity.

Holland's pageantry was on display and crowds lined the streets despite the chilly drizzle.

In her address to the joint session of both Houses in the great Knights Hall, the Queen said that without American ERP, Dutch recovery would be seriously impeded.

The overall picture for the nation was still "difficult," Queen Juliana said.

She also made two references to Indonesia. She regarded its relations with the Motherland as still troublesome.

She expressed Holland's wish "to satisfy the just aspirations of people overseas."

The Queen stressed the desirability of economic union with Belgium and Luxembourg and Holland's desire to eliminate all obstacles to its conclusion.

In conclusion, she called for continued efforts from her people, "still suffering from the after-effects of war in the midst of a world which does not yet know real peace."—United Press.

Black Marketeer Executed

Shanghai, Sept. 21.—Colonel Ching Ya-ming, who was assigned to track down blackmarketeers operators at the start of the Government Reform programme, was executed at Woosung Garrison today.

Ching was convicted a month ago of blackmarket operations himself. He formerly was head of the Shanghai Economic Section.—Associated Press.

Ships Take Refuge

Havana, Sept. 21.—The Canadian steamer Shismellon, bound for Miami, and the steamer Icefield (registry unknown) also bound for Miami, today took refuge at Nurutias, Cuba, to await the passing of a tropical storm, dispatches here said.

The storm was expected to hit Havana City later in the day and to affect the Island's three western provinces.—Reuter.

If the Senators decide the people should be consulted, there is no need for King Leopold to start practising. Their report first must go back to Parliament to be approved. Then, when a Referendum Law has been drafted, that date for a plebiscite must be set.

Actually it is not a plebiscite that is being considered today but what Parliamentarians call a "Consultative Referendum." In other words, although the Belgian citizen may be asked for his opinion, the majority vote which results will not necessarily be binding on the government.

SECRET VOTING

If the Referendum eventually takes place, all Belgian men and women over 21 will be called on to vote. Only known collaborators with the Germans will be barred. Voting will be obligatory and secret as it is in communal elections. Belgians who do not vote in elections face a fine unless they have a valid excuse.

Leopold himself will be informed of the result of the vote but that will be by no means an invitation to return.

The Senate and Chamber of Deputies first would have to meet, then a law would have to be passed ending the present Regency of Leopold's brother, Prince Charles. For only Parliament, which proclaimed the Regency, can invite the King's return.

Ever since the end of the war Belgian politicians have debated from the platform for or against the exiled King and his alleged relations with the Germans during the country's Nazi occupation.

Belgian displeasure over Leopold's abrupt surrender to Germany and his refusal to leave Belgium when occupation was imminent have prevented his returning to Belgium.—Associated Press.

CHINESE PROTEST TURNED DOWN

Bangkok, Sept. 21.—The Siamese Government today rejected the Chinese Government's protest against the Chinese Government's protest against the recent arrest of about 300 Chinese secret society leaders.

Siamese turned down the Chinese demand for the immediate release of the arrested men and for full details of the charges against them. An official source here said the Siamese Government was contemplating the reduction of the Chinese immigration quota to 8,000 from the present quota of 10,000.—Reuter.

Forecasts Outlawing Of Communists

New York, Sept. 21.—British Member of Parliament, Mr Albert Edwards, forecast today that the Communist Party will be outlawed in Britain within the next five months.

He made the statement to reporters when he arrived on the Queen Elizabeth for a two months' lecture tour of the United States.—United Press.

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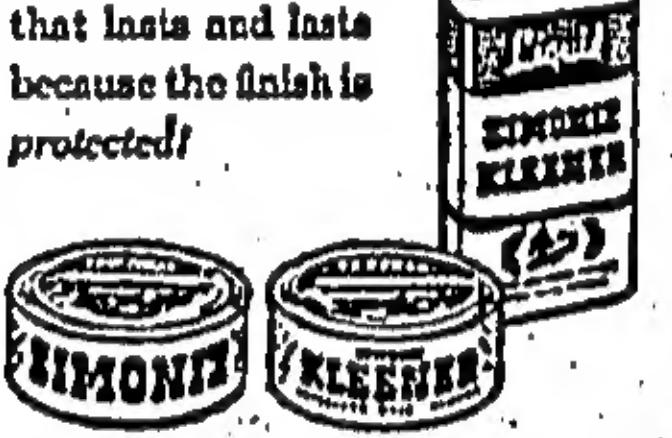
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